



PRESS NOTICE

BILL NETTLES UNITED STATES ATTORNEY DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

*1441 Main Street, Suite 500 * Columbia, SC 29201 * (803) 929-3000*

April 24, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT PERSON: BETH DRAKE
Beth.Drake@usdoj.gov
(803) 929-3000

FLORENCE GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

Columbia, South Carolina ---- United States Attorney Bill Nettles stated today that the Florence Division of the United States Attorney's office returned the following indictments on today:

ILLEGAL ALIEN CHARGED WITH POSSESSING A FIREARM. Lorenzo Rodriguez-Ortiz, a/k/a Gustavo Ortiz Rodriguez, a/k/a Monty Ortiz, a/k/a Jose Luis Clemente-Ixmatiahua, age 33, of Longs, South Carolina, was charged in a one-count Indictment with possession of firearms and ammunition by an illegal alien, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(5). The maximum penalty Lorenzo Rodriguez-Ortiz could receive is 15 years to life years imprisonment. The case was investigated by special agents of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Jean M. Popowski of the Florence office for prosecution.

Child Pornography. Matthew Price, age 29, of Florence, SC, was charged in a 2-count Indictment with possession and distribution of child pornography, a violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 2252A(a)(5)(B) and 2252A(a)(1). The maximum penalty Matthew Price could receive is 20 years imprisonment. The case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) special agents of the and is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney William E. Day, II, of the Florence office for prosecution.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafchildhood.gov

The United States Attorney stated that all charges in these Indictments are merely accusations and that all defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

#####